

BRINGING FAMILIES TOGETHER FAMILY DAY PROCLAIMED



MAYOR GENE WINSTEAD signed a proclamation designating **September 28 Family Day** in Bloomington. Family Day is a time to recognize and support efforts to make family a priority in our lives.

The designation comes in response to studies conducted by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse that found that the more often children and teens eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink and use illegal drugs.

AROUND TOWN

MAYOR WINSTEAD HONORED NORMANDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE CELEBRATES COMMUNITY

EACH YEAR, a Community Connection Award is given to an individual by the Normandale Community College Foundation. The award recognizes exemplary service to the community by deed and by example.

This year's recipient, honored at a ceremony at the college in September, was Bloomington's own Mayor Gene Winstead.

According to Normandale Community College Foundation Board Chair Robert Gibbs, the Mayor was chosen for many reasons, most notably for being the "mayor who shows up."

"Mayor Winstead has a reputation throughout the town for simply showing up – not only at City Hall for his official duties – but at all sorts of activities, programs and events," Gibbs said.

Tribute speakers at the event included City Manager Mark Bernhardson, who commended the Mayor for his long-term vision of working with others to make Bloomington a better community for future generations. Mayor Winstead has served on the City Council for 15 years and is serving his 10th year as mayor.



YOU CAN HELP KEEP YOUTH ALCOHOL- AND DRUG-FREE

KEEPING YOUTH alcohol- and drug-free makes a huge difference to their well-being and success. Alcohol and marijuana are the top substances used by youth in Bloomington. You can do something to help. Join Tri-City Partners and work to keep our youth alcohol- and drug-free.

Tri-City Partners is a collaboration with members from Bloomington, Edina and Richfield. It is organized by and has the professional support of Bloomington Public Health. Its members include parents, youth, schools, faith communities, businesses, law enforcement, youth-serving organizations and local government.

For more information on how you can get involved, visit the Tri-City Partners' website at www.tricitypartners.org or call 952-563-8984.

CENTER FOR THE ARTS

LOCATED IN Bloomington Civic Plaza at the corner of West 98th Street and Old Shakopee Road, the Center for the Arts is a first-class facility housing six arts organizations. For facility information, call 952-563-8889. For exhibit information and events, visit www.bloomingtonartcenter.com and click on Exhibitions, or call 952-563-8567.

EXHIBITIONS

Hours: M - F 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sa 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Su 1 - 10 p.m.

BLOOMINGTON THEATRE AND ART CENTER

952-563-8587

INEZ GREENBERG GALLERY

The **Holiday Art Sale**, featuring one-of-a-kind gifts handmade by local and regional artists, takes place at Civic Plaza, **December 4, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m., December 5, 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., and December 6, noon - 6 p.m.**

ATRIUM GALLERY

Bloomington Arts Center Instructor and Student Art Show, featuring works by instructors and their students, **runs through January 3.**



Guitar Player
by Tom Tyler.

SCHNEIDER THEATER

THE NUTCRACKER BALLET

Continental Ballet Company presents **The Nutcracker Ballet**, **December 4 and 5, 7:30 p.m., and December 6, 3 p.m.** This is your last chance to see this production before the show goes on tour. To order tickets, call 952-563-8562.

THE BLOOMINGTON CHORALE

The Bloomington Chorale invites you to get into the holiday spirit with song, **Saturday, December 12, 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, December 13, 3 p.m.**

Tickets are \$14 for adults; \$10 students/seniors.



TRIBUTE TO BIRDLAND

Join vocalists Debbie Duncan, Lee Engele and Bruce Henry as they salute the jazz landmark club Birdland with an evening of music, covering the history of modern jazz, **Sunday, December 20, 2 p.m.** Tickets are \$22 adults; \$19 students/seniors.

TRIBUTE TO PASTY CLINE

Performing as Patsy since 1989, Janie Miller has toured the country singing Cline's hits, including "Walkin' After Midnight," "I Fall to Pieces" and "Crazy." Don't miss her next Bloomington performance, **Sunday, January 10, 2 p.m.** Tickets are \$22 adults; \$19 students/seniors.

**GREAT GIFT IDEAS
at the
Holiday Art Sale!**

For theater tickets, call the Box Office at 952-563-8575 or visit www.bloomingtoncivictheatre.org.



THE SECRET OF CHRISTMAS

Minnesota's best-known jazz vocalist Connie Evingson performs such Christmas classics as "Silent Night" and her own swinging version of "The Nutcracker (Petite) Suite." Performances take place, **Friday, December 18, and Saturday, December 19, 7:30 p.m.** Tickets are \$25 adults; \$22 students/seniors.



MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

ARTS GROUPS COME TOGETHER UNDER NEW LEADERSHIP

ON JULY 1, the Bloomington Art Center and Bloomington Civic Theatre merged to form the Bloomington Theatre and Art Center (BTAC). The newly formed organization will function under the leadership of new Executive Director Andrea Specht.

Specht has a deep love of the arts and experience in the management and growth of nonprofit organizations.

"We're thrilled to have Andrea joining BTAC as its new executive director," Center for the Arts Manager Jim Urie said. "Andrea will add a new vitality to what is already a well-run and robust organization."

Urie added that under Specht's leadership he anticipates an even higher caliber roster of artistic and theatrical programs to enhance culture in Bloomington.

For more information on the new Bloomington Theatre and Art Center, call 952-563-8587 or visit www.bloomingtonartcenter.com or www.bloomingtoncivictheatre.org.

BLACK BOX THEATER

The Gallery Theatre Company presents **A Tuna Christmas**, directed by Dohn Thibault, through **Sunday, December 20**. Tickets are \$18 adults; \$16 seniors and \$14 students.